CLAIMS

1. A process for ex situ oxidizing passivation of a hydrocarbon hydroconversion catalyst, in which said sulphurized catalyst undergoes at least two treatments: contact with at least one oxidizing gaseous stream, and contact with at least one organic liquid with an initial boiling point of more than 120°C which at least partially fills the pores of the catalyst.

2. A process according to claim 1, in which in a first step, said sulphurized catalyst is brought into contact with at least one oxidizing gas stream and in a second step, it is brought into contact with said organic liquid.

3. A process according to claim 1, in which in a first step, said sulphurized catalyst is brought into contact with said organic liquid and in a second step, it is brought into contact with at least one oxidizing gas stream.

4. A process according to one of claims 1 to 3, in which contact with said gas stream is carried out in two stages, the first in a partial pressure of oxygen of less than 8 kPa, the second in a partial pressure of oxygen that is higher than that of the first stage and at most 21.3 kPa.

5. A process according to claim 4, in which the second stage of the first step is carried out in air.

6. A process according to claim 1, in which contact with said gas stream is carried out in one or more stages with one or more gas streams all having a partial pressure of oxygen of more than 8 kPa.

7. A process according to claim 6 in which the stream or streams is/are air.

8. A process according to one of the preceding claims, in which the catalyst is in motion.

9. A process according to claim 8, in which the catalyst is in a moving bed.

10. A process according to claim 9, carried out in a rotary oven, a fluidized bed oven, a band oven, a gravity bed reactor oven or a rising bed device.

11. A process according to one of the preceding claims, in which said organic liquid used in the second step is selected from the group formed by kerosene, gas oil, vacuum distillates, a lube oil, waxes and paraffins with an initial boiling point of more than 180°C.

12. A process according to one of the preceding claims, in which said organic compound contains at least one heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulphur and nitrogen.

13. A process according to claim 12, in which said organic compound is selected from alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, esters, amines, amides, mercaptans, sulphides and sulphones.

14. A process according to claim 13, in which the organic compound is an ester, preferably selected from animal or vegetable oils and partially unsaturated fatty acid triglycerides.